

From: [Fife, Greg](#)
To: [Broyles, Ragan](#); [Webster, Susan](#)
Cc: [Durant, Jennah](#)
Subject: RE: Bayou Corne -desk statement
Date: Friday, August 23, 2013 11:20:00 AM

Our CERCLA involvement was the Site Assessment in August 2012. EPA's ASPECT plane flew over the sinkhole and surrounding area. The concern regarding radioactive material being involved was eliminated with the data collected. EPA also assisted LDEQ in air monitoring during the drilling of an exploratory well. The material being released is crude oil and natural gas, both are exempted from CERCLA.

The National Pollution Fund Center (NPFC), the guardians of the Oil Pollution Act (OPA) funding has made a determination that since the oil and gas are naturally occurring, even with the disturbance caused by the cavern collapse, that the situation does not qualify for OPA funding.

-----Original Message-----

From: Broyles, Ragan
Sent: Friday, August 23, 2013 11:00 AM
To: Fife, Greg; Webster, Susan
Cc: Durant, Jennah
Subject: FW: Bayou Corne -desk statement

Should this statement mention our CEERCLA involvement?

-----Original Message-----

From: Durant, Jennah
Sent: Thursday, August 22, 2013 9:12 AM
To: Honker, William; Gray, David; Garcia, David
Cc: Hubbard, Joseph; Vela, Austin; McCorkhill, Michael; Taheri, Diane; Dwyer, Stacey; Dellinger, Philip; Edlund, Carl; Phillips, Pam; Broyles, Ragan
Subject: RE: Bayou Corne -desk statement

Here is the latest version. Let me know if anyone has concerns:

The US EPA is providing technical and scientific assistance to Louisiana in addressing the Bayou Corne sinkhole in Assumption Parish, Louisiana, and its effects on local residents and the environment. The Louisiana Department of Natural Resources (LDNR) is the lead regulatory agency for monitoring and response efforts. The state of Louisiana has authority to implement the Underground Injection Control permitting program under the federal Safe Drinking Water Act. The EPA will continue to provide assistance requested by the state.

-----Original Message-----

From: Honker, William
Sent: Thursday, August 22, 2013 8:47 AM
To: Durant, Jennah; Gray, David; Garcia, David
Cc: Hubbard, Joseph; Vela, Austin; McCorkhill, Michael; Taheri, Diane; Dwyer, Stacey; Dellinger, Philip; Edlund, Carl; Phillips, Pam; Broyles, Ragan
Subject: RE: Bayou Corne -desk statement

It's actually the Safe Drinking Water Act with regard to UIC permitting issues. Carl/Pam/Ragan - any "oversight" on the CERCLA side?

Bill

William K. Honker, P.E.



9610341

Director, Water Quality Protection Division (6WQ) EPA Region 6 Dallas, TX
214-665-3187

-----Original Message-----

From: Durant, Jennah
Sent: Thursday, August 22, 2013 8:43 AM
To: Gray, David; Garcia, David
Cc: Hubbard, Joseph; Vela, Austin; McCorkhill, Michael; Taheri, Diane; Honker, William
Subject: RE: Bayou Corne -desk statement

The US EPA is aware of the Bayou Corne sinkhole in Assumption Parish, Louisiana, and its effects on local residents and the environment. The Louisiana Department of Natural Resources continues to lead monitoring and response efforts. EPA is providing technical support and oversight of the state's activities under the authority of the federal Clean Water Act.

-----Original Message-----

From: Gray, David
Sent: Thursday, August 22, 2013 8:42 AM
To: Durant, Jennah; Garcia, David
Cc: Hubbard, Joseph; Vela, Austin; McCorkhill, Michael; Taheri, Diane; Honker, William
Subject: Re: Bayou Corne -desk statement

Oversight under what authority?

From: Durant, Jennah
Sent: Thursday, August 22, 2013 8:23:35 AM
To: Garcia, David; Gray, David
Cc: Hubbard, Joseph; Vela, Austin; McCorkhill, Michael; Taheri, Diane; Honker, William
Subject: RE: Bayou Corne -desk statement

Draft:

The US EPA is aware of the Bayou Corne sinkhole in Assumption Parish, Louisiana, and its effects on local residents and the environment. The Louisiana Department of Natural Resources continues to lead monitoring and response efforts. EPA is providing technical support and oversight of the state's activities, including use of the ASPECT monitoring plane.

-----Original Message-----

From: Garcia, David
Sent: Thursday, August 22, 2013 8:05 AM
To: Gray, David; Durant, Jennah
Cc: Hubbard, Joseph; Vela, Austin; McCorkhill, Michael; Taheri, Diane; Honker, William
Subject: RE: Bayou Corne -desk statement

Attached is a fact sheet, perhaps we can start with this.

David F. Garcia
Deputy Director
Water Quality
Protection Division

U.S. EPA Region 6
1445 Ross Avenue (Mail Code: 6WQ-D)
Dallas, Texas 75202-2733

Phone: (214) 665-7593

-----Original Message-----

From: Gray, David

Sent: Thursday, August 22, 2013 8:02 AM

To: Durant, Jennah

Cc: Hubbard, Joseph; Vela, Austin; McCorkhill, Michael; Taheri, Diane; Garcia, David; Honker, William

Subject: Bayou Corne -desk statement

All - we need a desk statement on Bayou Corne with emphasis on who is the lead and our role. ASAP. Stories are running in nation news with the latest collapse. We should be prepared for calls.

David